

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01606 281523Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 PC-01 DHA-02 /077 W

-----112453 281611Z /43

R 281440Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9559

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJ: OAU MINISTERIAL IV - JUNE 27

REF: LIBREVILLE 1580 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: JUNE 27 MINISTERIAL TURNED TO SOUTHERN AFRICA, HEARING FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS INCLUDING SWAPO, BISHOP MUZOREWA, AND PATRIOTIC FRONT (SEPTELS). MAYOTTE, AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION, CANARIES LIBERATION FRONT (SEPTTEL) ALSO DISCUSSED WHILE MOZAMBIQUE PROPOSALS ENTERED BUREAUCRATIC MORASS. END SUMMARY.

1. JUNE 27 SAW POLITICAL COMMITTEE BEGIN DISCUSSION OF ADMINSEC GEN'S REPORTS DECOLONIZATION OF RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. COMMITTEE ADDRESSED BY UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA AND SPOESMEN FROM PATRIOTIC FRONT, ZANU, ANC ZIMBABWE (BISHOP MUZOREWA), SWAPO, ANC SOUTH AFRICA AND PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS. KEY COMMENTS ON NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE BEING REPORTED SEPTELS.

2. MOZAMBIQUE ISSUE BECAME BOGGED IN QUAGMIRE WITH DECISION TAKEN THAT OAU DEFENSE COMMISSION WILL MEET
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIBREV 01606 281523Z

WITH AD HOC COMMISSION AT YET UNSPECIFIED DATE TO CONSIDER QUESTION OF MILITARY AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE, BOTSWANA AND ZAMBIA. AD HOC COMMITTEE TO HOLD FIRST MEETING MORNING OF 28TH, AND SEC GEN ETEKI TO DECIDE WHEN TWO GROUPS TO MEET TOGETHER. (COMMENT: FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, DECISION FOR JOINT MEETING EFFECTIVE-
LY DESTROYS WHATEVER LIMITED POSSIBILITY EXISTED FOR

EFFECTIVE OAU ACTION ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE QUESTION.)

3. POLITICAL COMMITTEE COMPLETED DISCUSSION ON MAYOTTE BY CONDEMNING CONTINUED FRENCH COLONIZATION. COMMITTEE OF SEVEN NAMED AT MAURITIUS SUMMIT TO ASSIST COMOROS IN DEVELOPING STRATEGY TO LIBERATE MAYOTTE WILL MEET JUNE 28 FOR FIRST TIME SINCE ITS CREATION. POLITICAL COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED RELATED QUESTION OF ESTIMATED 16,000 COMORANS REMAINING IN MADAGASCAR. CHAIRMAN EXPRESSED VIEW THAT BASIS OF UNDERSTANDING EXISTED BETWEEN COMOROS AND MADAGASCAR ON THIS PROBLEM, AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED BILATERAL MEETING TO ATTEMPT RESOLVE DIFFERENCES. COMMITTEE ALSO URGED MEMBER STATES TO PROVIDE BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO COMOROS, AND DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR COMOROS FROM AFRO-ARAB SOLIDARITY FUND.

4. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE COVERED ALL AGENDA ITEMS ON SCIENTIFIC MATTERS BY ADOPTING REPORTS AS SUBMITTED BY OAU SECRETARIAT. COMMITTEE ALSO PROPOSED THAT PANEL OF EXPERTS DEALING WITH REPORT ON CURRICULA REFORMS AND METHODS OF TEACHING IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS PREPARE FURTHER PROPOSALS FOR MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AT UNSPECIFIED FUTURE DATE. REPORT ON JOINT OAU/UNEP DESERTIFICATION MEETING ADOPTED, AND AFRICAN EXPERTS URGED TO ATTEND UPCOMING UNGA MEETING ON DESERTIFICATION. HIGH POINT (OR NADIR) CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LIBREV 01606 281523Z

OF DESERTIFICATION REPORT WAS RECOMMENDATION THAT USE OF NAPALM BE BANNED IN AREAS WHERE LIBERATION STRUGGLE GOING ON AS IT CAUSED DESERTIFICATION. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED ADDING MADAGASCAR, MOZAMBIQUE, BURUNDI AND CHAD TO LIST OF COUNTRIES ELIGIBLE FOR DROUGHT RELIEF. DISCUSSION CONTINUING ON ADMINSEC GEN'S REPORT ON SECOND CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTERS (ALEXANDRIA).

5. PLENARY OFFICIALLY WELCOMED DJIBOUTI AS 49TH MEMBER OF OAU FAMILY, WITH ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI DELEGATIONS WARMLY SUPPORTING DJIBOUTI'S MEMBERSHIP. SECOND APPEAL REPORTEDLY MADE FOR OAU AND MEMBER STATES TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NEW REPUBLIC.

6. PLENARY NOTED REPORT AND PROPOSED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION. TOGO PROPOSED RENEWAL OF MANDATE OF COMMITTEE OF TWELVE (APPARENTLY CONTRARY TO PROPOSALS MADE AT CAIRO AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT FOR NEW ELECTIONS) AS WELL AS CREATION OF NEW EXECUTIVE BODY TO "REVITALIZE" AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION. SEC GEN REPORTEDLY TO STUDY LATTER AND TAKE UP WITH ARAB LEAGUE AT APPROPRIATE MOMENT.

7. PLENARY ALSO NOTED REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF OAU OFFICE IN NEW YORK AS WELL AS PROPOSED CANDIDATES FOR UN OFFICES AT NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY. GABON, LESOTHO, MADAGASCAR AND SIERRA LEONE PROPOSED FOR VICE CHAIRMANSHIPS OF UNGA, GHANA FOR VICE CHAIRMANSHIP OF FIRST COMMITTEE AND UGANDA FOR SIMILAR POST IN SECOND COMMITTEE. FULL LIST OF PROPOSED DANDIDATES WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO SECSTATE AND USUN IF MADE AVAILABLE BY OAU.

8. DURING PRESS QUESTION PERIOD, BBC CORRESPONDENT RAISED REPORTS OF PROPOSED US/UK PEACEKEEPING FORCE FOR ZIMBABWE (WHICH HE CLAIMS CONFIRMED BY FOREIGN OFFICE) CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LIBREV 01606 281523Z

AND INVITED ASSTSEC GEN ONU'S COMMENTS. ONU PLEADED IGNORANCE, BUT STATED OAU'S POSITION WOULD LIKELY BE GUIDED BY THAT OF FRONT LINE STATES. HE RAISED QUESTION AS TO WHY USG PARTICIPATING IN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IF UK ACTING IN ITS ROLE AS RESPONSIBLE COLONIAL POWER. ONU ALSO STATED OAU STANCE ON NAMIBIA WOULD BE DETERMINED PRIMARILY BY SWAPO POSITION. STEIGMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIBREV01606
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770230-0898
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770611/aaaaajlc.tel
Line Count: 143
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2d189e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LIBREVILLE 1580
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2011374
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAU MINISTERIAL IV - JUNE 27
TAGS: PORG, GB, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2d189e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009